

REMARKS

At the outset, the Examiner is thanked for the thorough review and consideration of the pending application. The non-final Office Action dated April 24, 2007 has been received and its contents carefully reviewed.

Claims 1 and 9 are hereby amended, claims 21 and 23 are cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer, and claims 2, 3, 7, 8, 10, 11, and 13-20 are cancelled previously. Accordingly, claims 1, 4-6, 9, 12 and 22 are currently pending. Reexamination and reconsideration of the pending claims is respectfully requested.

In the Office Action, Claims 1, 4-6, 9, 12 and 22 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over US 5,514,426(hereinafter "Eguchi") in view of US 6,614,491 (hereinafter "Hasegawa"), US 4,709,994(hereinafter "Kanbe") and further in view of US 6,351,301 B1(hereinafter "Takotori")

The rejection of claims 1 and 9 are respectfully traversed and reconsideration is requested. Claim rejection 1 is allowable over the cited references in that claim 1 recite a combination of elements including, for example, "a lower alignment film formed on the lower plate, wherein only one of the alignment films on the upper plate and the lower plate is aligned in to determine an incipient alignment direction of the liquid crystal; and polarizers mounted on external surfaces of the upper and lower plates respectively, wherein a tilted long axis of the liquid crystal is coincident with a transmission axis of at least one of the polarizers, wherein the transmissive axis of at least of the polarizers is at angle within a range of 9 to 10 degrees with respect to an alignment direction of the aligned one of the upper and lower alignment films, and the liquid crystal is a ferroelectric liquid crystal of Half V-Switching mode".

Further, Claim 9 is allowable over the cited references in that claim 9 recite a combination of elements including, for example, “aligning only one of the alignment film of the upper plate and the alignment film of the lower plate; assembling the upper plate and the lower plate; and injecting a liquid crystal between the joined upper and lower plates; and mounting polarizers on external surfaces of the upper and lower plates respectively, wherein a long axis of the liquid crystal is coincident with a transmission axis of one of the polarizers, wherein the transmissive axis of the one of the polarizers is at angle within a range of 9 to 10 degrees with respect to an alignment direction of the aligned alignment film, and the liquid crystal is a ferroelectric liquid crystal of Half V-Switching mode”.

None of the cited references including Eguchi, Hasegawa, Kanbe and Takotori, singly or in any combination, teach or suggest at least these features of the claims 1 and 9.

The rejection of claims 4-6, 12 and 22 are respectfully traversed and reconsideration is requested. Claims 4-6, 12 and 22 depend from respective one of claim 1 and claim 9, and necessarily contain all of the limitations of claim 1 or 9.

In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to pass this application to issue.


CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and the timely allowance of the pending claims. Should the Examiner feel that there are any issues outstanding after consideration of the response, the Examiner is invited to contact the Applicants' undersigned representative to expedite prosecution.

If there are any other fees due in connection with the filing of this response, please charge the fees to our Deposit Account No. 50-0310. If a fee is required for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 not accounted for above, such an extension is requested and the fee should also be charged to our Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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